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SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE

SPECIAL BRANCH

No. S. B. D. 7164(c)

SPECIAL BRANCH, S.I. 12 Station 41

Date Jan. 17th., 1941.

REPORT

W.J.R. THORBECKE - FORMER NETHERLANDS MINISTER TO CHINA -

Subject..... ACTIVITIES OF.

Made by..... J.S.I. MARLSTADT Forwarded by..... D.I. Crawford.

Mr. W.J.R. THORBECKE, former Netherlands Minister to China, was dismissed from his post and from the Diplomatic Service in 1939 by order of Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands in connection with a divorce case.

His second wife Mrs. Ellen Thorbecke is a German by birth. She is an authoress and has recently written a book, entitled "Shanghai" containing various aspects on Shanghai life.

Mr. & Mrs. Thorbecke at present reside at 168 Route Ghisi.

Mr. Thorbecke, up to 1939, was in possession of his Diplomatic passport which was withdrawn later by the local Netherlands Consulate-General upon the instructions of the Netherlands Government. He, nevertheless, is reported to still, when an opportunity arises, continues to seek privileges attendant on Diplomatic rank.

Although he is known to have no permanent employment or any business, he is reported to be in comfortable financial circumstances and is very free with his money.

He travels a lot and most of his trips have been to North China and Manchukuo where he is reported to have good connections with Manchukuo Government.

File.



INDEXED BY
(S.B.) REGISTRY

DATE 18/1/41

REPORT

.....Station,

Date.....19

Subject.....

Made by.....Forwarded by.....

Officials and business circles and was once the unofficial adviser to the Trade Ministry of the Manchukuo Government.

He is also reported to be acting as a "go-between" for local German firms and Manchukuo and Japanese concerns in the transportation goods to Germany via the Siberian Railway.

Handwritten signature
D.S.I.

A.C. (SPECIAL BRANCH).

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
S. B. REGISTRY

No. S. B. D.
Branch, _____

Date March 29, 1939.

Subject. W.J.R. THORBECKE - former Minister to China of the

Netherlands - Antecedents and activities

Made by D.S.I. Mac Adie

ForWARDED by

Mr. W.J.R. THORBECKE was Minister to China of the Netherlands between 1932 and 1935. In the latter year he was dismissed from the Diplomatic Service owing to his being involved in a divorce case.

He is now in the Far East representing a number of Netherland and European business firms and maintains an apartment No. A-19 in the Cathay Mansions. He is actually in Singapore at present but his wife and children are living at the apartment in question.

The Netherlands Consulate General have received no official cognizance of his business in the Far East and it is confidentially learned that his activities have caused the Consular officials some embarrassment, due to his continuing to seek privileges attendant on Diplomatic rank. He has succeeded in obtaining a Special Licence for his car from the French Police in the Concession, is stated to be still using his Diplomatic passport and to be claiming rebates from shipping companies etc. usually granted to Diplomats.

R. W. Mac Aulie.

D. S. I.

F.I.C. (Special Branch)

P. A. to D. C. (Sp. Br.)
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Antecedents &
activities

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